# MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

## 4 MARCH 1985

### Lebanon

*Israel and the South* — Beirut radio accused the IDF of killing or wounding "more than 200 people" in a large explosion at the mosque in the Shi'ite village of Ma'rakah on 4 March. A UNIFIL spokesman cited by AFP announced that French UN troops had pulled out 19 dead or wounded people, though he noted that others were still trapped in the wreckage. For Israel's part, the IDF spokesman strongly denied that Israel was responsible for the explosion, IDF radio reported.

The explosion in Ma'rakah followed an IDF search operation in the village over the weekend in which about 800 soldiers took part, according to Jerusalem radio. Earlier, four IDF soldiers were wounded by attacks in the Tyre area, the radio noted. Meanwhile, Amal movement leader Nabih Birri warned that "whenever Israel strikes against a southern village, we will strike a settlement in Galilee," Beirut radio reported. Israeli Minister Without Portfolio Moshe Arens countered with a warning, broadcast by Jerusalem radio, that Israel will "crush Khomeyni terrorism" on its doorstep.

In a related development, the Israeli Cabinet unanimously decided on 3 March to instruct the IDF to carry out the second stage of the redeployment plan to safeguard Israel's northern border, the Cabinet secretary announced in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Dismantling work is already underway, according to the radio, and the evacuation is scheduled for completion within 12 weeks. During the Cabinet debate, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, in remarks broadcast by IDF radio, expressed the hope that Israeli troops will be back in Israel by September, but he warned the Syrians against moving their troops in Lebanon southward toward the Israeli border, asserting that this would lead to a "confrontation."

*Beirut Shelling* — Shells landed on the runways of Beirut Airport on 4 March, disrupting air traffic, Beirut radio announced. This followed clashes in the Al-Shuwayfat area the previous day, reported by Voice of Lebanon radio and the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio. While the former blamed the "Junblatt gunmen" for the renewed fighting, the latter held the Army and Phalangists responsible.

### Israel-Egypt

At the 3 March Israeli Cabinet meeting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres confirmed Israel's willingness to meet with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that does not include PLO members, but he said Israel will reject proposals for such a delegation to hold talks with the United States beforehand, Jerusalem radio reported. Earlier, the director general of Peres' office returned from Egypt with a message expressing President Husni Mubarak's "readiness in principle" to meet with Peres, according to Israel's *YEDI'OT AHARONOT*. On the other hand, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid indicated that a Peres-Mubarak summit is unlikely "at the present time," MENA reported. He also confirmed that Mubarak will meet with Jordanian King Husayn before visiting Washington on 8 March, according to Amman's *AL-DUSTUR*. 'Abd al-Majid had earlier delivered a message from Mubarak to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, announcing afterward in a statement reported by Cairo radio that Egypt and Iraq hold "identical" views on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, and stressing that the PLO must choose its representatives for any further political move in order to give momentum to the agreement. As for the internal debate in Israel over the merits of Mubarak's initiative, an Israeli official close to Prime Minister Peres stated on 1 March that Israel must take it "seriously," Jerusalem radio noted. On the other hand, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir subsequently contended that the recent contacts with Egypt have added "nothing" to the peace process, and he pointed out that the Likud's presence in the Cabinet prevents the government from embarking on any "dangerous political move," the radio reported.

### PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, in a 1 March interview with Radio Monte Carlo, confirmed that the PLO is holding contacts with Jordan in order to "clarify" the PLO-Jordanian agreement, and he said the dialogue will continue until the Jordanians agree to an amendment. Jordan views the agreement as providing for a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation for peace talks, whereas the PLO thinks there should be a joint Arab delegation in accordance with the Fes summit resolutions, he noted. On President Mubarak's initiative, 'Arafat expressed appreciation for Egypt's efforts to activate the situation but he reaffirmed the PLO's view that "everything" must be carried out within the framework of an international conference attended by all concerned parties including the PLO.

### Iran-Iraq War

*Land War* — Following a "daring and successful raid" on Iranian positions east of Basra, Iraqi troops occupied their targets and took up their new position late on 28 February, the Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by the Voice of the Masses radio maintained.

*POW's* — Iran released 27 disabled Iraqi POW's to Turkish authorities on 3 March, Tehran radio announced. The radio went on to note that Iraq has not declared its readiness to receive the POW's.

### Kuwait

*New Cabinet* — The Kuwaiti amir approved the new cabinet presented by the prime minister on 3 March, KUNA reported. There are 8 new faces in the 15-person Cabinet including the finance minister and the minister of state for cabinet affairs, the agency added.

*Assassination of Iraqi Diplomat* — In a telephone call to KUNA an Islamic Jihad spokesman claimed responsibility for the 28 February assassination of the Iraqi assistant cultural attache in Kuwait, according to the clandestine radio Nejat-e Iran. However KUNA has not reported the Islamic Jihad's claim. Meanwhile, in a Foreign Ministry statement carried by the agency, Kuwait strongly condemned the assassination saying that such acts are "directed primarily" against Kuwait's security.

### Pakistan

President Ziaul Haq, in a 2 March address to the nation broadcast by Karachi radio, announced his intention to restore "in stages" the 1973 Constitution subject to certain amendments which the newly elected National Assembly will be free to "reject, nullify, or terminate." Outlining his proposed amendments to the 1973 Constitution, President Zia said that he should be recognized as head of state for another 5 years by making the results of the 1984 referendum part of the Constitution.

As for the part of the Constitution dealing with a state of emergency, President Zia called for the establishment of a National Security Council whose duty would be to recommend the enforcement of a state of emergency if the national situation starts "deteriorating." He strongly denied "totally baseless" reports that this body would be above the constitution and could interfere in the work of government and parliament.

Meanwhile, Karachi radio reported that turnout in the Provincial Assemblies election was almost 57 percent, about 4 percent higher than for the National Assembly election, with the highest poll in the Punjab and the lowest in Baluchistan.

### Libya

*Al-Qadhdhafi Speech* — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in a speech to the General People's Congress broadcast by Tripoli radio on 2 March, proclaimed the establishment of a "pan-Arab command" for all the revolutionary forces in the Arab world from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf. PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad will ask the Algerians to join this command during his forthcoming visit to Algiers, Al-Qadhdhafi added. Noting that Algeria complains every time Libyan aircraft intrude into Algerian airspace, the Libyan leader stressed that Algerian planes are welcome to fly in Libyan airspace, and he reaffirmed his opposition to the "fictitious" borders dividing the Arab nation. He scorned those Arabs who are going "in procession" to pledge their allegiance to Washington, and said the Arabs should become "terrorists" against the United States and Israel, taking the battle to the Israeli settlements "inside Palestine."

On internal matters, Al-Qadhdhafi said that Libyan citizens have the right to defend their existence by "liquidating" opponents at home and abroad "in broad daylight." He also praised a Congress resolution providing for the forcible conscription of Libyans into construction companies. On the other hand, Al-Qadhdhafi criticized Congress resolutions concerning reparations demanded from Italy and Libyan students in Britain.

Tripoli radio also broadcast speeches by Khalid al-Fahum, "speaker of the PNC," and by a Fatah Revolutionary Council member, who spoke on behalf of Sabri al-Banna, alis Abu Nidal. Both speakers sharply attacked the Amman agreement between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn. Meanwhile, following a telephone conversation between Al-Qadhdhafi and Syrian President Hafiz al-asad, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Tripoli, according to the radio.

*Reaction to Vienna Shooting* — Libya will send officials to Austria to assist investigations into the "sinful attempt" to assassinate a Libyan diplomat on 28 February, according to JANA. In contrast with Austrian reports that the victim was no longer working for Libya and was an opponent of Al-Qadhdhafi's regime, JANA described him as a member of the staff of the Vienna People's Bureau and linked the shooting with previous attacks on Libyan diplomats in Rome. In a related statement reported by Vienna radio, the People's Bureau in Vienna accused the United States and Yasir 'Arafat of masterminding the assassination attempt.

### Morocco

King Hassan II, in a 3 March speech broadcast by Rabat radio, said that Morocco is "anxious" to build the Arab Maghreb and is therefore continuing the dialogue with Algeria. However, King Hassan II noted that the Arab Maghreb is "faltering" because of "obstacles" placed by enemies of territorial unity. Despite earlier reports that King Hassan II would deliver his speech on the anniversary of his accession to the throne in the Western Sahara, the radio announced that the speech was delivered in Marrakech.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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### BAKHTAR Comments on Reagan Appeal to Muslims

*LD040955 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 4 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 3 OANA-BAKHTAR — Receiving King Fahd of Saudi Arabia at the White House, Ronald Reagan called for a "greater closeness" between the West and the Muslim world. The meaning of his appeal became clear when he came to speak of Afghanistan.

In effect, his idea was to involve the Muslim nations of the Middle East in the criminal undeclared war which the US has been waging for seven years now against the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan.

Why has Reagan chosen this particular moment for his provocative appeal certainly not because the US Administration lacks funds for arming and training its mercenary gangs. On the contrary, this fiscal year Washington has allocated a record sum of 250 million dollars for these purposes. As noted recently by *THE WASHINGTON POST*, the undeclared war against Afghanistan has developed into the biggest secret operation of the CIA since the Vietnam war. So it would be logical to assume that President Reagan is now seeking to present that war in a more palatable image: Notably, as a joint action of the Muslim and Western countries.

In doing so, the President shamelessly exploits the religious feeling of Muslims by claiming that the people of Afghanistan are denied freedom of worship. This is a downright lie. Right after the 1978 revolution the country constitutionally guaranteed complete freedom of worship to its citizens. The government renders extensive material aid to its clergymen and believers, having allocated more than 150 million afghani (one US dollar equals afs 50) for the repair and construction of new mosques over the past two years alone, and 197 million afghani to finance Afghan believers' pilgrimages to Mecca and Medina. The number of people making hajj to the secred places in Saudi Arabia is steadily growing. Such is the truth.

It is not the freedom of worship but its own imperial interests in south west Asia that the US Administration is trying to defend by sending its mercenaries into Afghanistan, as cynically stated by a Pentagon official, the US is prepared to fight in Afghanistan to the last Afghan.

The affected concern of Reagan about the freedom of religion is just a smokescreen to cover up the US crimes against the people of Afghanistan.

### USSR-DRA Cooperation Agreement Signed in Moscow

*LD030633 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 2, BAKHTAR: New economic and technical agreement on cooperation between the DRA and the USSR, signed in Moscow is another significant step towards further development and deep economic relations between the two countries. The agreement provides the ground for cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of constructing new and economic projects in DRA during the next five years.

On the basis of this agreement USSR is to supply necessary machinery and equipments to the DRA, send experts and train Afghan engineers and technicians in various fields. The agreement was reached to construct some hydro-electric power stations on the course of Kabul River, and modernisation of the existing energy generating plants in DRA.

Likewise, Afghan-Soviet firms will continue their joint-cooperation in the construction of highways, modernisation of Kabul International Airport, improving of agriculture in DRA, particularly setting up of a new farm for cotton cultivation covering an area of 1000 hectares of land. USSR will also assist DRA in building up of residential buildings in an area of 400,000 square meters in Kabul, and re-equipping of the existing textile and weaving plants in Afghanistan.

### PRC Intensifying 'Hostile Campaign' Against DRA

*LD040944 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 4 Mar 85*

["Pool" item]

[Text] Kabul, March 3, OANA-BAKHTAR — Chinese hegemonists have intensified recently their hostile and notorious campaign against the DRA, says daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR*.

Sending of destructive weapons by China to the Afghan counter-revolutionary thugs is unprecedentedly on the increase. Additional training camps for vocational criminals have been set up in Chinese territory, the daily adds.

In addition, a large number of Chinese instructors are being dispatched to Pakistan for training Afghan counter-revolutionaries. The criminal action of Chinese hegemonists run counter to the will of the world population including the Chinese people.

The recent decision of Chinese hegemonists to send a delegation by the Federation of Chinese Women to Pakistan, the daily says, can be cited as one of the examples of such notorious acts.

According to a report carried by a Chinese daily (organ of Chinese Communist Party) the delegation was sent to Pakistan in order to express its "sympathy and full support" for the just struggle of Afghan people."

The so-called anti-imperialist campaign of Chinese hegemonists is now clear to the public opinion. Now they are staunch supporters of the most reactionary circles of imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialism.

Undoubtedly, the daily says, the policy pursued by Chinese hegemonists in international arena and their unbrideled campaign against the DRA is completely doomed to failure.

The people of Afghanistan who enjoy the support of their friends, particularly the Soviet Union, will thwart all plots of the imperialist undeclared war against the DRA.

**Daily Calls Pakistani Elections 'Ignominious'**
*LD040929 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 4 Mar 85*

[Text] Kabul, March 3, OANA-BAKHTAR: Only ten percent of the people who had the right to vote went to the polls for the so-called parliamentary elections in Pakistan, writes daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR*.

The daily adds that it is amazing that among the candidates of the military regime even some ministers and advisors of General Zia were not elected in the "parliament" of the hated regime.

The ignominious elections proved that Zia's military regime does not have any social basis and despite the threat, pressures and even ruthless killings, the regime could not make the people to vote. The elections once again demonstrated that Zia's previous committment for holding real elections was nothing but deception and intrigue. Thus, the military ruling circles will never be ready to give over the administration of the country to a non-military government through a genuine and democratic election.

Undoubtedly, Zia fears that real elections mean the end of its dictatorial rule. He wanted to divert the public opinion of Pakistan through holding such elections and thus to put off the restoration of democracy in Pakistan. However, the elections clearly showed that the common people of Pakistan hold the regime in great contempt.

The Pakistani people are fed up with the means used by Zia's dictatorial regime for the suppression of Pakistani people. Political observers believe that the only alternative for them is to become united in an attempt to overthrow the military regime of Pakistan, concluded the daily.

**Clandestine on Rocket Attack on Kabul Airport**
*LD021943 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Dari 1130 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] According to reports dispatched from the battlefields, the courageous fighters of Islam, in their attacks on major military installations or on the enemy's supply lines, by crushing the invader occupationist and servant forces, have also inflicted major losses.

Our correspondent reports from Kabul city that recently the Islam fighters fired ground-to-ground rockets at Kabul airport and Arg during the night. As a result, six rockets that landed on sensitive points of the airport and on Arg installations, considerable losses were inflicted on the installations of the oppressive enemy and a large number of Soviet invaders and their treacherous servants were either killed or injured.

The report adds that on 26 January the Qargha Division headquarters [outskirts of Kabul city] became the target of the heavy weapons of the self-sacrificing forces of Islam inflicting considerable human and material losses on the defeated enemy.

The report which reached us from Parwan Province describes how, in the bloody battles fought between the Islamic fighters and the Soviet air and land forces in Kuhestan and Golbahar regions, one of the Soviet helicopters was shot down and approximately 200 soldiers of the criminal Red Army were killed with a large number of these enemies of humanity and freedom left injured.

Our correspondent writes that the bodies of those killed were taken to Bagram airfield by helicopter and from there were sent to the Soviet Union.

The report from the Barikowt region of Konar says that heavy fighting is going on between the epic-making mujahidin and the forces of Barikowt regiment. All land supply routes were closed to these forces; and only by air, with great difficulties and acceptance of hardship, are supplies reaching the enemy forces. Our correspondent writes that the losses of the servant forces in these battles are very heavy.

We received a report from Paktia Province that as a result of the attack of the courageous mujahidin, a lorry of the Jaji tribal battalion was destroyed, two servant militiamen were killed and three of them were injured. The report adds that in this clash two of the hypocrite militiamen were taken as captives and their two weapons were taken as booty.

### Ershad To Enforce Law and Order 'At All Costs'

*BK021515 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad has said that any attempt to disrupt law and order will be dealt with by a heavy hand, and the Armed Forces — with the cooperation of the people and law enforcement agencies — will foil any such evil design at all costs.

The president was addressing the officers and men of the Armed Forces in Dhaka today. He said that we cannot allow our children to be pushed to their death or the people to be brought under difficulties in the name of politics.

The president said with regret that some politicians are considering his generosity and liberal attitude his weakness. He said that the days of conducting politics in towns and cities have ended and the politics of raising slogans, making statements in the press, and posting bills should also come to an end because these cannot benefit the people. He said that in an independent nation, such types of politics are obsolete and cannot be used to change a government.

### Further Reportage on Elections, Referendum

#### Election Schedule Canceled

*BK021621 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] The Election Commission has canceled the schedule for holding the parliamentary elections. It was to be held on 6 April this year. This decision was made on the basis of the declarations made by the president and chief martial law administrator in his address to the nation yesterday.

#### AFP: Opposition Figures Arrested

*NC021050 Paris AFP in English 1035 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Excerpts] Dhaka, March 2 (AFP) — At least three top opposition leaders have been arrested since President Hussain Mohammad Ershad last night cancelled a planned general election and reimposed martial law with a ban on political activity, opposition sources said here today.

The sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Oli Ahad of the Democratic League, K.M. Obaidur Rahman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and Nasim Ali of the Workers' Party were all in police custody in Dhaka. They said a number of leaders of the country's Secondary School Teacher's Association had also been rounded up to prevent a planned teachers' strike.

Reliable political sources said a "good number" of political workers, students and labour leaders were arrested last night and today in different parts of the country, but neither opposition nor official sources could confirm any arrest figures.

Opposition sources said the leaders of the country's two major opposition alliances — Begum Khaleda Zia of the 7-Party Alliance and Sheikh Hasina Wajed of the 15-Party Alliance — were both safe at their homes. But the two women could not be contacted by telephone and sources said they had been cut off from outside contact and were believed to be "under restriction." Eyewitnesses said armed police here this morning quickly dispersed anti-government students who tried to stage scattered demonstrations defying martial law at Dhaka College, the Engineering University and in the Mitford area of the old city.

#### Wajed, Khaleda Zia Under House Arrest

*BK031255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] In Bangladesh, two prominent opposition leaders — Sheikh Hasina Wajed and Begum Khaleda Zia — have been put under house arrest. This follows the reimposition of martial law by President Ershad. Most of the opposition leaders are reported to have gone underground. All political activities have been banned and a 5-hour night curfew remains in force in Dhaka and elsewhere in Bangladesh.

#### Curfew Outside Dhaka Relaxed

*BK031352 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1330 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Effective today, there will be no curfew outside the Dhaka metropolitan area from 0000 [1800 GMT]. Curfew in Dhaka city, however, will remain as usual between 0000 and 0500 [1800 GMT and 2300 GMT]. There will be no curfew outside the municipal area of other towns of the country as well.

## Reportage on Assembly Elections in Four States

### Electioneering Ends 28 Feb

*BK281643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Feb 85*

[Excerpts] Electioneering ended this evening in 939 constituencies in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar, which go to the polls on Saturday in the first phase of the assembly elections; 199 of these constituencies are in Bihar, 157 in Maharashtra, 263 in Uttar Pradesh, and 320 in Madhya Pradesh. About 12 crore electorate will chose their representatives from among 9,900 candidates. Polling will be completed in Madhya Pradesh on Saturday. Campaigning for the remaining 410 constituencies in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, and for the 1,170 constituencies in 7 states and the union territory of Pondicherry will end on Sunday.

Election has been countermanded in 10 constituencies — 3 each in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, 2 in Orissa, and 1 each in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Meanwhile, in Bihar, elaborate arrangements have been made to ensure a free and fair poll and to prevent attempts of violence and booth capturing. The state chief secretary, Mr K.K. Srivastav, told newsmen in Patna that the weaker sections will be given full protection to enable them to cast their votes. He said concrete steps have been taken to prevent violence and intimidation of voters. As a precautionary measure, carrying of firearms and lethal weapons on the polling day has been banned.

The Election Commission has reaffirmed that the poll schedule in any of the states, including Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, will not be disturbed. The deputy election commissioner, Mr Ramakrishnan, told newsmen in New Delhi today that the chief electoral officers of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat have not expressed difficulty in holding elections in view of the antireservation agitation by the students.

### 'Brisk' Voting in First Phase

*BK020756 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] Moderate to brisk polling is reported from most of 938 constituencies which went to the polls in the first phase of the assembly elections in the four states today. In Madhya Pradesh, an estimated 30 percent of voters exercised their franchise by noon. Reports reaching Bhopal said that brisk polling is reported in major towns as well as rural areas. There is no report of any untoward incident from anywhere. Our Bhopal correspondent who went round polling stations in and around the city says there is a greater enthusiasm among the voters this time than in the recent Lok Sabha polls. Long queues including a large number of women in burqas [veils] were seen standing before the polling booths in many places. Several (?aged) people also cast their votes with the help of their relatives. Polling in the gas-affected areas in the vicinity of the Union Carbide plant was equally brisk with greater turnout of voters this time.

In Bihar, 10 to 15 percent of voters exercised their franchise in the first 3 hours of polling. Our Patna correspondent who visited a number of polling stations says that the polling was particularly heavy in some booths in Patna East and Ganapur constituencies. Women outnumbered men at several places. Barring a stray incident the polling has been peaceful so far in the state. According to official sources, one boy was killed in an accidental firing by a constable near Ganapur.

In Maharashtra about 20 to 25 percent were estimated to cast their votes by noon today. Polling was peaceful and orderly throughout the state. The Maharashtra minister, Mr Vasantrao Patril, was among the early voters at (Padmale) in his home constituency of (Sanghania).

In Uttar Pradesh, polling started on a brisk note in most of the places, except in hill areas where it is reported dull in the first hour.

### Violence in Bihar

*BK021259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] Early reports say that about 40 to 45 percent of the electorate exercised their franchise in the four states which went to the polls in the first phase of assembly elections. While there were some incidents of violence in Bihar, polling has been peaceful in the other three states. In Madhya Pradesh, polling was brisk in major towns as well as rural areas. Heavy polling was reported in Bhopal and Ujjain districts. Our Bhopal correspondent, who went round the polling booths in and around the city, reports that there was greater enthusiasm among the voters this time than in the recent Lok Sabha polls. Polling in the gas-affected areas in the vicinity of the Union Carbide factory was equally brisk. More than 45 percent of voters exercised their franchise in Indore and adjoining areas. People came out in a large number in their traditional dresses to cast their votes.

In Bihar, polling began on a dull note, but picked up later as the day advanced. Stray incidents of violence marked the poll scene in some places of the state. According to official sources, one boy was killed in an accidental firing by a constable near Ganapur. Two persons were killed in group clashes outside the polling booths in Kurkuri and Paliganj constituencies. In Islampur constituency, police had to open fire in self-defense near a polling booth in Mahmudpur when a violent mob tried to overpower them. A CPI member of parliament, Mr (Ram Ashay Singh), was arrested along with his son at (Tilhara) in the same constituency for possessing fireams and threatening the police party.

In Maharashtra, about 40 percent of the electorate had cast their votes by 1400. In Bombay, polling was particularly brisk in the labor dominant areas. In Uttar Pradesh, the turnout of voters, which was low in the beginning, gained momentum as the day advanced. Polling took place today in all the 320 constituencies in Madhya Pradesh, while it was partial in other three states.

Polling also took place in the by-election to the Lok Sabha from the Goda constituency in Bihar.

### Further Reports of Violence

*BK021703 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Excerpts] About 50 percent of the electorate exercised their franchise in the four states, which went to the polls today in the first phase of the assembly elections. Polling was peaceful in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra, while in Bihar 10 persons are reported killed and several injured in poll violence.

Reports reaching Patna say that an estimated 45 percent of the voters exercised their franchise in 198 constituencies in Bihar. Our Patna correspondent, who went round a number of booths in Danapur and Maner constituencies, reports that polling began on a dull note, but picked up as the day advanced. Reports of violence have come in from some places in the state.

The home commissioner, Mr N.K. Aggarwal, said that one person was killed in group clashes outside a booth in Kurkuri in Paliganj constituency, while a boy was killed in an accidental firing by a police constable near a booth at (Saguna) in Danapur constituency. One person was killed when the police fired to disperse a violent mob in Mahishi constituency in Saharsa District. Group clashes have also been reported from (Majhol) and (Bandiya) village of Gaya District and Govindganj of East Champaran District, in which three persons were killed.

In Fatehpur, of Vaishali District, two persons were killed when the border security force men fired in self-defense as they were attacked by a violent mob. Another person was killed in police firing when some people tried to snatch away a ballot box. One person was killed in (Kariama) village of Nawadah District in police firing.

Mr Aggarawal said the police had to resort to firing at five places to prevent a violent mob from disturbing the polling. More than 100 people were arrested. A large number of country-made firearms were seized. Polling was suspended in about half a dozen booths due to disturbances.

The home commissioner said that in three booths of Karagpur assembly constituency in Munger District, polling authorities detected that all the ballot papers had been cast in the boxes much before the polling started. Polling officers of these three booths, including the presiding officers, were arrested. Alternative arrangements were made and polling there continued.

Polling was also held today in the by-elections to the Lok Sabha from Godda constituency of Bihar. The deputy election commissioner, Mr V. Ramakrishnan, told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that repoll is likely to be ordered in four booths in Bihar.

### Students Postpone 'Agitation'

*BK040322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Mar 85*

[Text] In Gujarat, the students' agitation against the reservation policy of the state government has been postponed till the assembly elections are over. This decision was taken at a meeting of the All Gujarat Educational Reforms Committee, which met in Ahmadabad yesterday. A spokesman of the committee said later that the decision was to ensure a peaceful poll in the state.

### Mizoram 'Disturbed Area' Declaration Extended

*BK020911 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] The union territory of Mizoram was declared a disturbed area for another 6 months with effect from yesterday. An order to this effect was issued by the lieutenant governor and administrator of Mizoram, Mr S.S. Dubey, in Aijwal.

### Radio Reports 2 Killed by Extremists in Tripura

*BK020909 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] In Tripura, two persons were killed by extremists near (Chellikachera) in the Kailashar subdivision this morning. A contingent led by senior police officers have rushed to the spot and a massive combing operation is on. Meanwhile, a 12-hour bundh [strike] is being observed at (Chailanka) to protest against the killing.

### AFP: 'Flood' of Tamil Refugees Flee Sri Lanka

*HK030117 Hong Kong AFP in English 0940 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Excerpts] Madras, India, March 2 (AFP) — The trickle of Tamil refugees beginning last month when five families arrived in two boats, has turned into a flood, as Tamil Nadu authorities gear up to cope with the numbers, officials and eyewitnesses said here today.

Daily arrivals in this south Indian state have now exceeded 1,000 in the past few days with no sign of it abating, taking the total influx in the current wave since February 5 to over 12,000, officials said.

The total comes in addition to nearly 80,000 Sri Lanka Tamils who sought refuge here after the July 1983 ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, they said. Some 325,000 plantation workers of Tamil origin were also repatriated to India under a 1966 pact with the island republic.

To cope with the mounting cost of feeding and sheltering the refugees, the state government was sought an initial grant of 4.17 million dollars from the federal Indian Government.

But chief minister, M.G. Ramachandran, reportedly told Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, when the premier made an overnight halt here Thursday, that Tamil Nadu would need 9.17 million dollars forthwith to care for the arrivals.

Sri Lankan State Minister Anadatissa de Alwis has questioned Indian officials' total of 12,000 refugees arriving in Tamil Nadu during the past three weeks, but local authorities here say every new arrival is registered and the records are there for all to see.

Not all those who leave the shores of Sri Lanka make it to refugee camps in Tamil Nadu. A fleet of plastic boats carrying 140 refugees two days ago was intercepted by the Sri Lanka Navy.

Refugees told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that several unidentified bodies had been washed ashore on the Tanjavur coast in the past two weeks.

The refugees leave the Sri Lankan coast mostly by night to avoid detection by naval patrols. They use mainly small single-engined fibre-glass boats which can carry 20 to 30 people. If they have a straight run they can reach the Tamil Nadu port of Rameswaram by dawn.

Some new arrivals here told AFP that Pesalai, on the Mannar coast, and Kankesanturai, a fishing village in the troubled Jaffna District, had been completely evacuated of Tamils.

They alleged that their houses had been occupied by families of armed Sinhala civilians. The refugees charged that the Sri Lankan Government had a plan to settle about 30,000 Sinhala families in the traditional Tamil homeland in northern Sri Lanka.

Some accused the army of imposing a reign of terror and giving Tamils a virtual ultimatum to leave.

After registration by Indian authorities, the new arrivals are sent to the transit camp at Mandapam, where they are innoculated against cholera, given a set of clothes and other essential requirements and dole, officials said.

The 300-acre (120 hectare) camp is a former trading post for Indian plantation labour bound for Ceylon.

Meanwhile, Mr. Athulathmudali yesterday decided on a limited relaxation of a four-month old fishing ban in the northern waters, officials said.

Tamil separatists based in India have ferried men and arms across the Palk Strait to Sri Lanka, Colombo has maintained. The ban was imposed to crack down on them.

One of the major reasons for a reported exodus of Tamils to southern India is the fishing ban and consequent loss of livelihood, officials said.

They said would-be refugees picked up by Sri Lankan forces in the Palk Strait had given the ban as the reason for their flight.

The relaxation was expected to be officially announced in the next two days, the officials said.

Fisheries Minister Festus Perera said naval vessels would patrol the areas where fishing would be allowed, to ensure that fishing boats did not stray into Indian territorial waters.

Mr. Athulathmudali said fishing would be permitted in specified areas only, the officials said.

The likely areas are immediately south and north of Mannar and the waters hugging the northwestern coastline up to Karainagar, a naval base, analysts said. In the northeast, an area south of Mullaitivu would probably be opened to fishing.

Mr. Perera said that about 40,000 Sri Lankans, including Tamils, were affected by the fishing ban.

### Tamil Refugees From Sri Lanka Number 13,240

*BK040408 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Mar 85*

[Text] The influx of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees at Rameswaram continues unabated. With the arrival of about 320 families consisting of nearly 1,240 members at Rameswaram during the past 2 days, the number of refugees has gone up to 13,240.

Meanwhile, 1,370 families consisting of about 5,850 people have been dispatched to various districts in Tamil Nadu. The remaining are being accomodated at the Mandapam and Rameswaram camps.

### Delhi on Defeat of Ministers in Pakistan

*BK011622 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Mar 85*

[Text] Agency reports say that in Pakistan, many of the members who had won in Monday's polls to the National Assembly have lost the elections for provincial assembly held yesterday. Among them are a former minister of state, Javed Hashmi, and a former governor and chief minister in Mr Bhutto's government, Nawab Sadeq Hussain. Two of the provincial ministers of Sind have also lost. The Jami'at-e Eslami, the party which is supporting the government, has secured only one seat in the Sind assembly. Among the successful candidates from west Punjab were the former Pakistan pace bowler Sarfraz Nawaz and former hockey captain Akhtar Rasul. A spokesman of the Pakistan Election Commission, however, said the results of the provincial assembly polls will be officially declared on the 5th of this month.

### Commission Reports Provincial Election Turnout

*BK020543 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] The turnout of voters in the provincial assemblies election was 56.91 percent as opposed to 52.93 percent in the National Assembly. According to the Election Commission, out of 32,500,000 voters, about 18,500,000 exercised their right of franchise. In Punjab the voter turnout percentage was 61.85; in sind, 49.82; in North-West Frontier Province, 47.61; and in Baluchistan, 46.62 percent.

### Election Commissioner on Outcome

*BK020548 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] The chief election commissioner, Justice S.A. Nusrat, has complimented the country's electorate for showing unprecedented enthusiasm and wisdom in electing their representatives. Commenting to the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN in Islamabad yesterday, he said this was evident from the fact that voter turnout in the provincial assembly election was higher than that of the National Assembly. The Election Commission received no serious complaints in these elections.

The chief election commissioner said he was pleased and satisfied that the elections were held justly, fairly and impartially according to guiding principles given by the government to the commission. He also expressed his gratitude to the media for their impartial and judicious assessment of results of the elections.

### Observers Analyze Elections

*BK020604 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] Observers in Islamabad say that provisional results of the provincial assemblies election show that almost the same pattern of new and younger leadership has emerged in assemblies of the four provinces as was witnessed for the National Assembly. They say younger leadership with moderate moorings won the elections. One important aspect of the election is that the winning candidates agree with the president that the nation's goal is to set up an Islamic welfare state. They also agree that to achieve this goal the present government's process of Islamization should continue. A good beginning has already been made in this connection. That is why the voters did not feel any great need to know the candidates' political affiliations. The voters judged only by the capabilities of the candidates — the capabilities needed to serve Islam. Observers say that the Pakistani general elections have restored the people's confidence in the election process. The honor of holding extremely fair and impartial elections legitimately goes to the government

### DAWN Editorial Views Results of National Elections

*GF031224 Karachi DAWN in English 1 Mar 85 p 17*

[Editorial: "In Deference to Popular Will"]

[Text] The dissolution of the federal Cabinet within hours of the completion of the National Assembly polls has come as a welcome sign of change in the way things are run in the country. Only those ministers and advisers who did not participate in the polls are now members of the caretaker government. Even though a belated move, this should help create a healthy precedent. There was a general demand that the ministers contesting elections should be relieved of their official positions. The suggestion was justified. The government functionaries facing the rough and tumble of the hustings should have laid down their offices in order to remove any suspicion that they sought an advantage over their rivals. These persons did not owe their position to any electoral mandate but were appointed to what are meant to be representative offices.

It does not seem very proper - at least politically and morally - that a candidate who has lost in this week's elections should continue to hold a public office if his representative capacity in relation to that office has been eroded. In this context, a good example has been set by the Punjab minister of awqaf and social welfare, Mian Zakir Qureshi. His son lost in the NA [National Assembly] polls. Since the father had actively canvassed for his son and publicly identified himself with the losing candidate, the minister interpreted the defeat as reflecting want of public confidence in himself. It certainly needed considerable moral courage to admit as much. Another case is that of Mr Abdul Ghafoor Bhurgari, Sind revenue minister, who, having lost the contest for a National Assembly seat, has resigned his membership of the Provincial Cabinet as well as the Majlis-i-Shoora [federal consultative council]. Both these bodies will shortly cease to exist, but Mr Bhurgari's gesture is something to be thankful for. Those are not the only examples of this kind. In 1983, a federal minister, Syed Fakhar Imam, has voluntarily resigned after losing the election of the chairmanship of a Zila Council. This gesture was unprecedented at the time and was widely appreciated. His self-effacement might have been one of the factors that won him a National Assembly seat this time.

Such examples need to be emulated on a wider scale in the interest of building up the right kind of conventions, which we lack so much. Democratic institutions have yet to take root in the country. A crucial part is played in the democratic process by the unwritten conventions of the Constitution and healthy usages which spring from the subtler demands of honesty and propriety in public life and from a deep sense of political and moral responsibility. In Pakistan's brief history of public life there have been innumerable instances of chicanery, double-dealing and opportunism, leaving aside graft and influence-peddling. Sometimes ministers have combined their ministerial posts with offices which they could not hold without securing undue benefits. Such conduct has undermined the moral foundations of public life and

political government, thus providing ammunition to the traducers of democracy and popular sovereignty. If Pakistanis aspire to take their destiny into their own hands and secure to themselves the benefits of democratic self-government, they will have to show that they care a great deal for healthy political conventions and that they will never let violators of these conventions go unexposed, unchallenged and unpunished.

**Karachi on Mujahidin Activities in Provinces**

*BK010834 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 1 Mar 85*

[Text] Afghan mujahidin have claimed that they killed 10 Soviet-Karmal troops during their operations in Oruzgan and Helmand Provinces. These operations were carried out 2 weeks earlier. Mujahidin also claim that in a surprise attack on a military convoy they destroyed one tank and its crew members.

## SRI LANKA

### Athulathmudali Says 430,000 Returned to India

*BK041115 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 4 Mar 85*

[Text] The 430,000 people of Indian origin had returned to India by the end of last month. Arrangements are now being made for the repatriation of another 77,000 plantation workers of Indian origin. A shipping service has been started from Colombo to Tuticorin for the purpose of transporting these people. This was disclosed by the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, when he answered questions in the national Mahapola seminar held at Mirigama recently.

Mr Athulathmudali said under the Sirimavo-Shastri Pact, it was decided that 600,000 people of Indian origin should be given Indian citizenship; 375,000 plantation workers were to be given Sri Lankan citizenship.

The minister, however, pointed out that over the past 15 years only 570,000 plantation workers had asked to return to India; 93,000 had said that they did not want to go back. The problem in regard to repatriation concerns these people. Mr Athulathmudali stated that this problem had existed even prior to 1977. He said that no decision had been taken about these 93,000 people.

### Athulathmudali on 'Terrorist' Attack on Police

*BK031103 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Excerpt] The supression of terrorism is now being done according to a plan. Miracles are not expected. While terrorism will be suppressed on a systematic basis, the terrorists will never be allowed to gain victory. This was stated by the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, when he spoke at the 101st national Mahapola at the Dudley Senanayake Junior School at Mirigama last night. The minister challenged the terrorists to a direct confrontation, asking them not to play hide and seek.

Mr Athulathmudali explained why the terrorists were talking big in Madras. The police and the Army had successfully repulsed the terrorist attack on the Kilinochchi police station. On that occasion there had been less than 40 officers. However, the number of terrorists who had been killed in the battle were more than this. Only four police and Army officers had sustained injuries. He pointed out that the terrorists, however, had spread a completely different story about the incident.

Speaking further, the national security minister said that the Sinhala people had gained two victories since the 1983 July riot. It has been proved that it is much safer for the Tamil people to live among the Sinhalese than to live in Jaffna. The second victory is demonstrated by a statement made by an American official to the Congress that since July 1983 the attempts made by the terrorists to arouse the Sinhalese had failed. Mr Athulathmudali said that nearly 200,000 families are to be settled in the area extending from Vavuniya to Elephant Park.

### Government Denies Report

*BK021327 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] The government denied a REUTER report from New Delhi which quotes the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency saying that 40 Sri Lanka policemen and soldiers were killed in an attack on a Sri Lankan police station. PTI was quoting a press release issued by the Eelam People's Liberation Center based in Madras.

According to the Ministry of State [words indistinct] the police and Army have successfully repulsed a terrorist attack on the Kilinochchi police station. Two policeman and three soldiers were injured in the incident. The injured men are in the hospital and out of danger. There were no such casualties among the security forces.

The State Ministry points out that the story spread by the foreign news agency is yet another instance where they have quoted all Eelam leaders on terrorist activity in this country. [Word indistinct] news agencies highlighted similar Eelam stories regarding incidents at the Karainagar and Kurugama [words indistinct] events.

### Delhi Report

*BK011604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Mar 85*

[Text] Agency reports say that Tamil militants launched a major attack last night on the Kilinochchi police station in the northern part of the country. At least 13 policemen are reported to have been killed in the incident. Official reports however say that casualties on the police side was minor.

### Khomeyni Receives Petroleum Minister, Cleric

*LD031222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] This morning, Ayatollah Rezvani, a representative of the imam of the ummah and Friday prayers leader of Hajj Seyyed 'Azizollah Mosque, and Minister of Petroleum Gharazi were separately received in audience by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

After his meeting with the imam, in an interview with our correspondent Mr Gharazi commented on the report he presented to the imam of the ummah about the activities of his ministry. He said: During a recruitment examination held by the Ministry of Petroleum, 40,000 high school graduates who had taken part in the war took the examination; 7,000 of them were chosen as employees of the ministry. Also, 3,500 applicants with higher diploma, BSC and BA degrees, and specialists were selected and employed.

He added: Drilling has increased from 14,000 meters a year to 80,000 meters. The number of drilling rigs has also increased from 3 to 18. Offshore oil production, which was less than 100,000 barrels a day, has reached 270,000 barrels a day; and onshore production has increased from 2.3 million to 3.2 million barrels a day.

He went on: Consumption of oil products has increased from 90 million liters a day to 130 million liters a day, and the daily capacity of oil refineries has increased from 550,000 to 750,000 barrels.

The petroleum minister added: The Ahvaz pipe-manufacturing factory has increased its monthly output from 2,000 metric tons to 20,000 metric tons. The oil refineries of Khangiran and Bakhtaran have reached production stage now; and expansion of the gas network, which was limited to 170 km a year during the former regime's era, reached 876 km in the year 21 March 1983 to 20 March 1984 and was increased to 1,162 km during the past 11 months of the current year. Consumption of natural gas, which was less than 7 million cubic meters in the past, has reached 26 million cubic meters.

He went on: The task of laying down more than 3,600 km of gas pipelines from Rasht Rey to Rasht, Sari, Mashhad, Torbat-e Heydariyeh, and Gonbad-e Kavus, and from Tabriz to Urumiyeh, Esfahan to Kerman, and Lorestan to Bakhtaran has been completed and is operational.

In conclusion he said: In order to fill their engineering cadres, the oil and gas engineering faculties admit more than 450 students a year.

### Musavi Speaks of Iran's Example to Lebanese

*LD011829 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Mar 85*

[Excerpt] The Central News Unit reports that the prime minister met with a group of citizens and officials of the departments and revolution foundations of Faridan, as well as with the Faridan deputy in the Majlis to whom he spoke about the cultural fruits of the Islamic Revolution and the deep relations of all segments of the population with the Islamic Republic's authorities. He expounded on the various dimensions of the dependence on the superpowers of the authorities of several countries in the world and also on their allegiance with the world powers in various organizations, noting:

The regimes' lack of any firm belief and their dependence on the support of the superpowers for political livelihood are among the reasons for the dependence of such countries' authorities on the two poles of arrogance.

Generally, the behavior displayed by an Iranian delegation at various international conferences is evidently different from that of other delegations. This is because we have no inhibitions in openly and officially declaring our country's independence at any international conference and gathering. The reason is the Islamic Republic authorities' reliance on the people.

As long as the country's officials are in contact with the nation and continue to practice humility toward the people, this force can be effective in spreading Islamic ideas and the message of the Islamic Revolution, as well as maintaining the independence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in today's world.

The prime minister noted: What frightens the great powers today is the extensive awareness of our nation. This is why the superpowers are taking special note of us all around the world. They are waiting for the responses of the Islamic Republic of Iran to their actions in the world and in particular in the Middle East.

While referring to the escape of the Zionist forces from Lebanon and acknowledging it as an unprecedented event, in the history of the Jerusalem-occupying regime, prime minister Musavi added:

It is the force of the belief in the Islamic Revolution that has crossed the borders and the awareness and persistence of our nation in varied arenas and the warfronts that guarantees the persistence of the Lebanese people and the spread of awareness and awakening among all of the Muslim and oppressed nations.

### Velayati on Israeli Occupation of South Lebanon

*LD031151 Tehran IRNA in English 1135 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 3, IRNA — 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Sunday condemned "the barbaric" actions of usurper Israel in southern Lebanon and said the silence of the United States and Western countries in the face of these barbaric actions "is an indication of their approval of these actions."

Speaking to a gathering of ambassadors from Arab and Islamic countries here Sunday morning, Foreign Minister Velayati reiterated Iran's readiness to "face the usurper Israel and take action to liberate dear Al-Qods."

"The Islamic and martyrdom-seeking character of the Muslims in facing the occupying forces should be manipulated for deci-

sively dealing with the question of Israel, is an evil and unjust entity which wants to rule through the use of terror and panic, and naturally, we should not be stopping at the borders of Lebanon," Dr. Velayati said.

"The struggling Muslim people of Lebanon, the Palestinian strugglers, the Muslims from the occupied lands and Syria are left alone to face these atrocities of the usurper Israel, and therefore, there is a need for an Islamic and Arab movement," he added.

Velayati said following the Israeli occupation of Lebanon, there were three Israeli withdrawals from Lebanon, first from Beirut, then from the mountain regions of Al-Shuf and Alayh near Beirut, and finally from Sidon and the Al-Awwali River. "The first two withdrawals were carried out as tactical retreats and in fear of creating popular and Islamic resistance and finally with the intention of creating and promoting factional and tribal clashes. But in the withdrawal or flight from Sidon, the reasons were the existence of an Islamic resistance and the high casualty rate of the Israelis -- something which had profoundly affected the social fabric of the Israeli society."

Foreign Minister Velayati pointed to the suicide missions of the Muslims such as the attacks against the Israeli Information Center in Sur, the attack on the U.S. Marines' Headquarters and French paratroopers in Beirut and other similar actions almost every day of the Israeli occupation as evidence of this development.

"The anti-Zionist resistance and actions indicate that resistance has become a deciding factor in all occupied parts of Lebanon, all the occupied territories and particularly in the West Bank for solving the Palestinian issue."

"This is one of the causes of Israeli fear and the mad reactions of this despotic regime. This fear of Islamic resistance has imposed itself even upon America and other Western countries supporting Israel because through their silence, they have approved these crimes of the Israeli regime."

Dr. Velayati added that Islamic resistance has grown at a time when those claiming to fight Israel are laying down their weapons "and the Islamic and Arab world has been deceived into accepting this belief of the Western world that the Palestinian issue could be solved through negotiation and with preserving the existence of Israel. It was on the basis of this belief that a race to compromise with Israel started in the Arab world and almost everyone turned to political solutions."

"It was under such circumstances that the Islamic resistance of Lebanon dismissed all these solutions and showed to those who had accepted the shameful Camp David Accord and other plans similar to it that the only way to deal with Israeli aggression and obtain the legitimate rights of a nation is armed Islamic struggle.

Therefore, the solution of the Palestinian issue and obtaining the legitimate rights of the oppressed people of Palestine is only possible through this tested and victorious method," Velayati added.

"This approach to the problem dismisses the solution of the Palestine problem along with the existence of a country called Israel, and secondly, this approach believes in engaging with and countering international Zionism as a whole with the weapon of martyrdom and selflessness."

The Iranian foreign minister then referred to the atrocities committed by the Al-Qods-occupying regime in southern Lebanon and added that "the usurper Israel, in order to break this resistance could not keep its barbaric and anti-human nature concealed and resorted to massacring innocent people and destroying everything in south Lebanon, a move that only doubled the determination and resistance of the people." This was how Israel got to be in a deep quagmire, he added.

"We cannot permit this anti-humanistic regime to crush the Muslims of southern Lebanon, to demolish peoples' homes right over their heads, to continue its terroristic and barbaric actions, or its occasional attacks on neighboring countries that have expansionist designs and kill and destroy."

"We are standing alongside the oppressed people of Palestine, the Palestinian fighters, the Muslim people of Lebanon who are fighting the usurper Israel with empty hands. We stand alongside our Syrian brothers who are bearing the Israeli threats, and we ask the Islamic and Arab worlds not to leave the Lebanese Muslims and the Palestinian strugglers alone. The Islamic and Arab worlds are going through a critical period and what we need is comprehensive move," the Iranian foreign minister concluded.

**Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Meetings With Kurd Rebels**
*LD011339 Tehran IRNA in English 1248 GMT 1 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 1, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Thursday rejected reports that the Islamic Republic was discussing any issue with anti-revolutionary Kurdish leaders. He said the Islamic Republic would only speak with the people of Kordestan and pardon repentant members of the rebel groups.

"But top-level cadres of these groups, who are the cause of all these tyrannies and crimes, should be tried and punished for their actions, like Saddam," he said.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said fugitive Iranian anti-revolutionaries at one time wished to take control of the oil-rich Province of Khuzestan and Kordestan but had now reached "such abjectness" that some of them claimed to have held talks with the central government.

"We must say to them that at the time when you held most of Kordestan in your hands, we were not ready to look at your evil faces because of your tyrannies and crimes against the people. How could we negotiate with you now that you have nothing," he added. Hashemi-Rafsanjani who was speaking to a group of members of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Military Training Council, said the key to the success of the military forces and all revolutionary institutions in Iran is spirituality and faith in God.

### Plan To Sell Shares in Factories Approved

*LD021759 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Excerpt] After the announcement that shares in factories will be sold to workers, it was decided that shares in all the nationalized nonstrategic factories, as well as the state-owned nonstrategic factories, are to be sold to workers as well.

In an interview given to a correspondent of the Central News Unit in Rasht, Minister of Industries Shafe'i, having announced the decision, referred to the transfer of shares in the state-owned and nationalized factories to workers and their management by the private sector as a step towards the blossoming of Iranian industry, saying: According to a formulated plan on the sale of factory shares, priority is given to workers in nationalized enterprises.

Commenting on the coordination in the distribution of the factories' products, he said: On the basis of Cabinet decisions, it has been decided that the Ministry of Commerce should, for the time being, prevent the supply of foreign goods such as cloth, which is produced locally, so as to enable us to supply domestic goods in local markets. In line with this measure, provincial banks and other commercial banks are to cooperate by advance purchase of factory products.

### Montazeri on Vigilance Against Drug Trafficking

*LD021135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri stressed the importance of guarding the country's borders against drug traffickers. His eminence said during last week's meetings:

The smuggling and distribution of narcotics in our country is presently a conspiracy and political problem upon which the world's imperialist powers are heavily investing to inflict a blow on our revolution and nation. His eminence called upon responsible officials of the country's gendarmerie to attach particular importance to safeguarding the country's borders.

### PRC's Zhang Jingfu Meets With Khamene'i, Others

#### Delegation Visits Shiraz

*LD011848 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 1 Mar 85*

[Text] Shiraz, Fars Pr., March 1, IRNA — The People's Republic of China State councillor arrived here Friday for talks with local officials and a visit to historical sites.

Zhang Jingfu and his accompanying delegation visited Takht-e Jamshid's historical ruins and the tombs of poets, Sa'adi and Hafez.

The Chinese official also talked with the governor general of Fars Province before returning to Tehran in the evening.

#### Meets With Velayati

*LD021231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] According to a Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision [Iranian radio and TV] correspondent, the expansion of links between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China, in its various dimensions, was discussed this morning and put to exchanges of views during the meeting between Zhang Jingfu, PRC state supreme councillor, who is in Tehran, and Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati.

At the meeting, Velayati emphasized: We have always tried to coordinate our relations with the Third World countries in the best possible manner.

Zhang Jingfu, while praising the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy, which is based upon the negation of the superpowers' supremacy and on the basis of the neither East nor West slogan, said: The expansion of our relations embraces the interests of all Third World countries, as well as satisfying the mutual interests.

#### Meets Agriculture, Commerce Ministers

*LD031304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Topics of interest between the two countries and the nature of the expansion of scientific exchanges in agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, and forestry, were discussed today in a meeting between Agriculture Minister Zali and the PRC state councillor who is visiting Iran at the head of a delegation.

According to a report by the Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision, PRC State Councillor Zhang Jingfu also met with Minister of Commerce Abedi-Ja'fari today. They discussed the exchange of non-oil products and agricultural and technological cooperation between the two countries. In this meeting, Zhang Jingfu declared that his country is ready to purchase from Iran more than $8 million worth of mineral stones, cast iron, pistachio nuts, buses and mini-buses this year.

#### Khamene'i, Namazi Meet Zhang

*LD031910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Zhang Jingfu, the PRC state councillor who has come to Iran heading an economic and political delegation, was received by the President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i this morning. At this meeting, the president's advisor Mirsalim, Deputy Prime Minister Aqazadeh, and the ambassadors of the two countries were present.

The state councillor first conveyed the greetings of his country's president and said that he was pleased to visit Iran. He stressed the need for all-around expansion of economic, political, and cultural relations between the two countries, saying: Expanded relations between Iran and China would serve the interests of both countries and would be a move towards greater cooperation

between the countries of the Third World; this would strengthen those countries against the industrial countries. He said: After the victory of the great Islamic Revolution in Iran, your country, led by Imam Khomeyni, has followed the policy of neither East nor West and has expanded and strengthened relations with the Third World in reconstructing the country, spreading the Islamic culture, and through its foreign policy. The Chinese Government views these moves with admiration. Stressing the long-term and lasting cooperation between China and Iran, the PRC State Council member described the future of these relations as reassuring and in the interests of the two countries.

Mr Khamene'i in turn thanked the PRC state councillor for his friendly remarks. Referring to the bases for friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries and emphasizing their expansion, Mr Khamene'i said: Although there are differences in the political and social systems of the two countries and in their philosophical views, there are many common interests which ensure a long-term and sincere friendship between China and Iran.

The president added: Our great Islamic and popular revolution taught us many lessons, the first of which was the ability to recognize real and potential enemies of the nation. What we have learned from our experiences in the revolution is that we should never trust and confide in powers that want to divide the world among themselves politically and economically.

Khamene'i said: You are aware that the historical and social emotions of a nation are transferred from one generation to the next, and that nothing can easily change those historical conceptions and emotions.

Our nation has, in fact, tried to avoid being dominated by foreigners. Our policies and culture, which drive us away from methods used by superpowers, have resulted in people hating us; this has become second nature to our nation.

Referring to Iran's neither East nor West policy and the fact that it is based on the nation's history and past experiences, the president stressed: This is why the natural orientation of our foreign, economic, and international trade policies is toward countries that have no record of desiring to dominate or occupy other countries; China is one of those countries.

Khamene'i emphasized the need for political cooperation and common stances in international organizations such as the Nonaligned Movement, saying: All those nations that share the proper attitude toward the superpowers feel that there is no other way to confront these powers except for nations to cooperate with each other. Afghanistan is our next-door neighbor, and a little further away lie Lebanon and occupied Palestine. We definitely feel a sense of responsibility toward these countries.

The president emphasized: Whenever possible we have clearly and quickly criticized the United States, because of its support for the usurping Government of Israel and U.S. domineering interference all over the world; and the USSR, because of its expansionist interference in Afghanistan. We believe that it is the right of the oppressed nations to be defended. We believe that this is one of the many common views shared by China and Iran.

The PRC state councillor together with his delegation met Mr Namazi at the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs today. At this meeting, in reference to the long-standing cultural links between Iran and China, grounds for expanding economic, trade, and technological relations between the two countries with mutual respect and while maintaining the interests of the two countries were discussed.

### Clandestine Report

*GI030717 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Radio Nejat-e Iran in Tehran has reported on the visit of the PRC politico-military delegation to our country, saying that the team is headed by the PRC's deputy prime minister, who has been meeting with the mullahs Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Musavi, and Khamene'i in the past 3 days.

Contrary to the Soviet Union, which did not agree to provide arms to the regime in its war against Iraq, the PRC sent a delegation to capitalize on the strain in Iran-Soviet relations and proposed selling arms to Iran.

The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent, citing circles close to the regime's Foreign Affairs Ministry, added in his report: Diplomats in Tehran believe that the Chinese, who are not able to provide fighter planes or heavy and modern armaments, have entered the arena of the mullahs' political (?wooing) in order to follow their most important objective, which is a presence in the Persian Gulf. Until now they have been deprived of this presence.

The establishment of a company named Sherkat-e Shomal for the purchase of arms, which has set up branches in Tehran and Beijing, and the agreement with the PRC for the purchase of arms worth 1.6 billion dollars for use in the war with Iraq have attracted the attention of political observers in the area.

It is interesting to note that the mullah Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who already considers himself as the most definite successor to Ruhollah Khomeyni, said yesterday — after his meeting with the PRC deputy premier — that with PRC military aid, we will go to war against the Arab imperialists of the Persian Gulf.

## Kazempur Ardabili Meets With Andreotti in Italy

For reportage on the economic delegation led by Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili which is visiting Western Europe and is now in Italy, and a report on Ardabili's visit with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, see the Italy section of the 4 March Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

## Further Commentary, Reportage on UN POW Report

### Iraq Withdraws UN Request

*LD031454 Tehran IRNA in English 1447 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 3, IRNA — The United Nations Representative office in Tehran Sunday said Iraq withdrew a request

for a U.N. team to inspect a civilian area in northern Iraq which it claimed to have been bombarded by Iran. The Iraqi regime had recently claimed Iranian forces had shelled a school building and several houses in the northeastern city of Sulaymaniyeh and had requested an investigation into the matter by the U.N.

The U.N. representative in Tehran, Michael Muller, told IRNA that reports from U.N. headquarters in New York indicated that Iraq had withdrawn its request for a fact-finding team to visit the Sulaymaniyeh region. He said he was waiting for further reports from New York and an official statement on the issue would be issued later.

In January, a U.N. delegation which visited southern Iraq did not confirm similar Iraqi allegations against Iran, saying it found no evidence of Iranian attacks on non-military installations.

**Commentary on UN Report**

*GF021200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Excerpts] Our UN representative has announced that the Islamic Republic has asked the United Nations to set up a commission to look into the release of thousands of Iranian civilians who have been forcefully detained in Iraq and also to look into the problem of thousands of Iranians who have disappeared during the war. At the start of the imposed war when it attacked our country, the Iraqi regime transferred to Iraq thousands of civilians from villages located in the war zones as POW's. Iraq considered them to be POW's which goes against the tenets of Islam and international law.

In fact the Iraqi regime has detained these civilians in the country so that it could have some points in its favor in face of the 50,000 Iraqi POW's in Iran, and also to be able to claim that it too has a large number of Iranian POW's in Iraq. So far every time our country as a goodwill gesture releases Iraqi POW's who had been captured in battlefields, Iraq releases only a few of these civilians.

It has been only a few days since the UN report on the condition of POW's in Iran and Iraq was published and the Iraqi regime which sees that it is on the losing side, has proposed that the UN Security Council hold a meeting to look into the condition of the POW's in the two countries and also to formulate a plan for the exchange of POW's. Iraq has taken this step because it wants to keep the initiative in its own hands. Moreover since the UN Security Council is also expected to advocate the principal of exchange of prisoners, it would automatically meet the political propaganda of the Iraqi regime.

The Islamic regime will boycott this meeting because as already explained by our permanent UN representative, Mr Rajaie-Khorasani, the Security Council has not so far been able to remain impartial with respect to the imposed war.

Another proof of this lack of impartiality can be found in the latest UN report in respect to the condition of the POW's in Iran and Iraq. The UN team that visited Iran and Iraq could not close its eyes to the present calamities besetting the Iranian prisoners in Iraqi camps. But, so that it did not seem to be taking sides, it tried to place illogical blame on the authorities of our country. However, one could see from this report that they have not been able to pinpoint any basic or logical blame on the attitude of the authorities of our country toward the Iraqi POW's. In their report, they have naively said that in the POW camps in both countries they found despondency and disillusionment among the prisoners.

The major blame on Iran was that in the Iranian POW camps it tried to impart Islamic religious and cultural teachings on the prisoners. Let us now see whether this is a complaint or a credit for us. Is this an inhuman dealing or a dealing that is quite humane and honorable?

When the UN team visited the POW camp in Iran it met with Islamic slogans from the Iraqi prisoners. They were reciting Koranic verses and wanted the downfall of the Saddam regime, liberation of Karbala and Jerusalem. They criticized the International Red Cross for taking its false stance and for open favoritism toward the Iraqi regime and for spying in the POW camps. They told the visiting UN team that they wanted to go to battlefields against Iraq and take part with the Islamic combatants in liberation operations.

**UN Office 'Distorted' Report**

*LD021909 Tehran IRNA in English 1832 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 2, IRNA — The United Nations Information Centre in Tehran has distorted the U.N. report on the condition of prisoners of war in favour of Iraq, in a brief statement summarising the report.

The statement, circulated among foreign embassies in Tehran, made no mention of the U.N. reports concern over the use of force against the POW's, particularly in Iraq, but instead made an explicit note of "ideological pressures" on Iraqi POW's in Iran.

The 82-page U.N. report had tried — though unsuccessfully — to balance the physical torture of Iranian POW's in Iraq on the same scale. But the statement published by the U.N. centre in Tehran did not even try to hide the contradictions in the U.N. report and has totally sided with the Iraqi regime.

The five-point statement was issued on Feb. 24 regarding the "conclusions" reached by the U.N. team. Iran is the only state mentioned in the whole statement in the third point.

"3) ...The Gorgan incident was not a unique or the most serious incident. In Iran ideological and religious pressures of the prisoners and the creation of rival groups in the POW camps, which themselves are the result of these pressures, are increasing tension and the atmosphere of fear."

**UN Office Apologizes**

*LD031919 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 3, IRNA — The U.N. Information Centre in Tehran sent a letter of apology to the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY (IRNA), saying the distortion in its press

release of the conclusions of a U.N. team on the condition of POW's in Iran and Iraq was due to "telex problems".

The press release had referred to Iran's "ideological and religious pressure" on Iraqi POW's but had made no mention of the use of force by camp guards, particularly in Iraq, as had been stated in the U.N. report.

"On behalf of the United Nations Information Centre in Tehran, I should like to convey our sincere apologies for the most unfortunate and inadvertant error that occured in the issuance of the press release," wrote the director of the centre, Krishnan Singh. The centre acted to correct the press release today, more than a week after it was originally issued and one day after IRNA reported the distortion. The letter had a corrected press release attached, in which the use of force in Iraq had been inserted.

## Iraq 'Refuses' To Respond To Release of POW's

*LD021741 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] Following an announcement concerning the release of another 31 Iraqi POW's and subsequent to an invitation extended by the Islamic Republic of Iran, a mission, led by the managing-director of Turkish Red Crescent, arrived in Tehran yesterday in order to supervise ways of transporting the POW's.

The mission visited the released Iraqi POW's this morning at Takhti Red Crescent hospital and then carried out the necessary examinations. It should be recalled that despite the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced that it will transfer the said Iraqi POW's tomorrow by plane to Ankara through the Turkish Embassy in Tehran, to be returned to Iraq, Iraq has so far refused to respond to Turkish officials concerning the delivery of the POW's on the said date.

### POW's Flown to Ankara

*LD031131 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Following the humanitarian steps taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the return of Iraqi POW's, 27 Iraqi disabled POW's were released today at noon. In this connection, our correspondent reports from Mehrabad airport:

[Unidentified Correspondent] Following the humanitarian steps taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran 27 Iraqi POW's were unilaterally released, and at noon today, they left Tehran for Ankara. These POW's, who were accompanied by some officials of our country and the representatives of the Red Crescent of Turkey, will be delivered in Ankara, to the Red Crescent of Turkey and from there they will be sent to Iraq through the International Red Cross. This is taking place even though the Iraqi regime has not, up to this moment, declared its readiness to receive the Iraqi POW's.

The disabled Iraqi POW's, in an interview with the reporter of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at Mehrabad airport, while expressing appreciation and thanks to the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who took unilateral steps to release them, described the attitude and behavior of the Iranian brothers as Islamic and brotherly. This is the correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

## Joint Staff Command Issues Communique on War

### No 2,019

*LD031615 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 1 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 1, IRNA — The Islamic forces destroyed seven Iraqi bunkers, two observation posts and one vehicle across the Arvand River in the southern sector of the battle fronts Thursday, Joint Staff Communique No. 2019 reported today. It said five Iraqi bunkers were demolished in the Bayatan region of Ilam province, in the central sector of the fronts, and a number of Iraqi personnel were killed.

In the Naft-e Shah region of Bakhtaran Province also in the central sector, an Iraqi patrol group came close to Iranian positions but was forced to escape after sustaining a number of casualties.

Iraqi artillery fire was silenced in the northern sector of the war fronts, inflicting damage on enemy bases and vehicles and killing or wounding a number of soldiers.

The communique also said four homes were damaged as a result of Iraqi fire on the southern port-city of Abadan Thursday but did not mention any casualties.

### No 2,020

*LD021536 Tehran IRNA in English 1512 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 2, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran and the Iraqi forces traded artillery fire across the northern and central battle fronts Friday, with the heaviest duels occurring in the Mehran front and lighter duels in the Piranshahr and Sardasht regions.

Joint Staff Command Communique No. 2020 said Iranian fire paralysed enemy supply efforts in Marivan and Haj 'Umrah, in the northern front. Iranian combatants sent patrols in the central fronts, while bombarding Iraqi concentrations, causing noticeable damages and casualties.

In the southern fronts, particularly in the Majnun Island and Zobeydah, where cross fire was heavier than elsewhere in the south, Muslim combatants deployed defensive tactics and strengthened their positions. In these fronts, enemy engineering units came under Iranian fire suffering heavy casualties and losses.

The Muslim forces bombarded sections of Iraqi bunkers on the banks of the Arvand River, setting two of their vehicles on fire and halting their engineering activities.

**No 2,021**

*LD0317 20 Tehran IRNA in English 1657 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] Tehran, March 3, IRNA — The Islamic combatants zeroed in on enemy positions beyond the Arvand River Saturday, preventing the movement of their vehicles along the Alfay-Basra axes inside Iraq. One Iraqi engineering vehicle and one truck carrying personnel were destroyed in the region.

Joint Staff Communique No. 2021 issued today also said in the northern fronts, the exchange of fire was less intense over the past 24 hours. Iraqi light and heavy vehicles were targetted in the Chuman-Mostafa and Darband regions in the north, and sporadic exchanges of fire continued in the central fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam Provinces. The movement of Iraqi armoured units were checked by Islamic combatants in the region overlooking Mehran.

An Iraqi vehicle column came under fire in the Sumar region, also in the central fronts, the Joint Staff communique said.

## Tehran Reports Departure of Troops to Battlefront

*LD031200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 3 Mar 85*

[Text] According to IPNA and the Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision, a large group of oppressed mobilization forces from the Labbeyk ya Khomeyni project and those ready for a second period of service left for battlefronts. They were from the cities of Borujen, Ardabil, Maraghch, Shiraz, Birjand, Qa'emshahr, Semnan, Shahrud, Damghan, Garmsar, Boshruych, Mahdishahr, Bafq, Zarrinshahr, Esfahan, Kashan, Golara, Mianch, and Bandar 'Abbas and from the Provinces of Ilam, Lorestan, and Kerman and the tribal resistance forces of Bovir Ahmad and Kohkiluych Province.

Continuing the departure of popular volunteers from Khorasan Province to the war-torn regions, during the past 2 days a large group of experts in technical and construction subjects, members of the reconstruction headquarters in the cities of Birjand, Qa'en, Mashhad, Sabzvar, Torbat-e Heydariych, Shiruych, Esfarayen, and Bojunard left for Dasht-e Azadegan in order to help in the reconstruction of this region.

**Further Report**

*LD041026 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 02030 GMT 4 Mar 85*

[Text] Yesterday afternoon in order to assist the brave combatants of Islam, a party of self-sacrificers of Islam from Baluchestan va Sistan Province, set out for the battlefronts of justice against injustice amid a send-off ceremony staged by the people of Zahedan.

According to reporters from the Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the course of the last 2 days, other groups of combatant brethren from the Basij-e Mostaz'afin [Mobilization Corps of the deprived] members of the Labbeyk ya Khomeyni project, and volunteer veterans as well as technicians and experts from the Provinces of Mazandaran, Gilan, Bovir Ahmad and Kohkiluych, Lorestan, and the cities of Tutak Baz, Arak, Darab, Dehdasht, Esfahan, Qom, and Bojnurd, set out for the battlefronts of war.

Also, another group of brethen from the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, were despatched to the battle fronts of justice against injustice, amid some ceremonies, yesterday afternoon. In these ceremonies, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim, the spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, delivered a speech. It is to be noted that this is the 13th round of the dispatch of forces on the part of the Basij [mobilization] of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, to the battlefronts.

**Volunteers March Through Qom**

*LD021813 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the invitation extended by the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI] to mobilize Iraqi Muslim forces and to send them to the fronts of the war of Iraq against Iran, this afternoon a group of the Iraqi Muslim Mojaheds residing in Qom marched through the streets of that town and left for war fronts. marchers who were led by struggling clergymen, carried placards with slogans about continuing the war until final victory and chanted slogans such as "War, war till victory, death to Saddam, death to the United States, death to the USSR, and death to Israel." They gathered in the shrine of Ma'sumah, peace be upon him, and after prayers they left for the fronts of war by Islam against world arrogance.

## Islamic Jihad Claims Responsibility for Shooting

*GF021410 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 2 Mar 85*

[Text] The Islamic Jihad organization attached to the Khomeyni regime has claimed responsibility for the murder of the assistant cultural attache of Iraq in Kuwait. Mr Hadi 'Awwad Sa'id, assistant cultural attache of Iraq in Kuwait, and his son were murdered in front of their house by four armed men. The murderers were able to escape without leaving any trace. Kuwaiti police are looking for them. Six hours after the incident a spokesman of the Islamic Jihad organization telephoned KUNA, saying that this organization takes responsibility for the murder of Awwad Sa'id.

The Islamic Jihad organization is run by 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Iranian ambassador in Damascus, and Nura'i, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Beirut, under the overall supervision of Dr Hoseyn Sheyk ol-Eslam, under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is in charge of terrorist activities in the region and for the last 3 years has directed terrorist and subversive activities in the region financed by the Islamic regime.

This is the second such incident against Arab diplomats in the last 2 days. Yesterday, the former Libyan ambassador to Austria who was campaigning against the Qadhdhafi regime was killed

in the suburbs of Vienna. According to Western mass media, the bombings which have taken place in Beirut and Kuwait and have killed hundreds of persons were also the work of this organization. These explosions, which are known as "hexadic explosions," were carried out by the Islamic Jihad organization and responsibility for them was claimed by this organization.

Briefs

**Spanish Envoy Meets Velayati** — Tehran, March 3, IRNA — Irna's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati discussed the freedom of an Iranian citizen who is currently in detention in Spain, in a meeting with Spain's outgoing Ambassador to Tehran, Javier Oyarzun. Bilateral ties and the upcoming visit of the Spanish foreign minister were also discussed in the meeting on saturday. [Text][*Tehran IRNA in English 1515 GMT 3 Mar 85 LD*]